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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ron S. Israeli, et al.
Serial No.: 08/466,381 Group Art Unit: 1645
Filed : June 6, 1995 Examiner: S. Gucker
For : PROSTATE-SPECIFIC MEMBRANE ANTIGEN

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
March 20, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO
FEBRUARY 18, 1999 FINAL OFFICE ACTION AND SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AS A FIRST SUBMISSION**

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 18, 1999 in connection with the above-identified application and as a first submission pursuant to a Communication Requesting Withdrawal of finality under 37 C.F.R. 1.129(a) of the February 18, 1999 Final Office Action.

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the claims

Please cancel claims 90-96 without prejudice to applicants right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a later-filed application and add new claims 97-103 as follows.

- E1 Sub 91
- 97. (New) A method of detecting micrometastatic prostate tumor cells in a subject which comprises:
a) obtaining a suitable sample of mRNA from the subject;